

On March 17, 1955, our local newspaper published an account by Mr. Norman Barrett [referred to above] of his seeing a White Ibis in the same locality. He also requested information on its local status. In answer, three persons, including myself, claimed to have seen White Ibis here, the other two having seen it that week, one at Collie Bridge, the other at Glen Iris, on the outskirts of the town.

Three months later on June 4, 1955, while travelling by road to Busselton I saw a pair of what I took to be White Ibis "short-hop-flying" on a clearing near a large expanse of swamp country, about 5 miles out of Bunbury.

On June 26, I saw two large birds in flight, which I again supposed were Ibis, above the Estuary near the Quarantine Station. That afternoon I walked there and obtained a good view of two Ibis intently feeding at the water-edge.

—LOIS E. WALLACE, Bunbury.

Nesting Records—1946 and 1947. — For comparison with data, published by I. C. Carnaby and A. H. Robinson, I submit the following summaries of observations made at Bilbarin, near Corrigin, in 1946, and at Caron in 1947.

At Bilbarin, the winter of 1946 was wetter than average, but was followed by a dry spring — a poor year from the agriculturists' viewpoint.

At Caron, 1947 was a "good" year, rainfall, in points, recorded at the Caron Railway Station being: Jan. and Feb., nil; Mar., 204; Apr., 105; May, 257; June, 117; July, 197; Aug., 72; Sept., 54; Oct., 310; Nov. and Dec., nil. Total, 13.16 inches.

In the following records of nests with eggs or young, progress of breeding is indicated by symbols: E, nest with eggs; Y, young chick; F, fledgling; U, young—stage of development unknown; B, adult brooding.

BILBARIN—1946

July 28—Yellow-tailed Thornbill, (E). Sept. 29, (E). Dec. 15, (B).
Aug. 10—Magpie-lark, (E). Sept. 15, (E). Oct. 13, (E).
Aug. 25—Pipit, (E).
Aug. 26—Brown-headed Honeyeater, (U). Aug. 27, (U).
Sept. 15—Western Magpie, (U).
Sept. 15—Chestnut-tailed Thornbill, (U).
Sept. 15—Brown Flycatcher, (E). Oct. 20, (E). Oct. 27, (Y). Nov. 17, (E).
Sept. 22—Welcome Swallow, (?E). Oct. 27, (U).
Sept. 22—Willy Wagtail, (B).
Sept. 22—Red-capped Robin, (E). Oct. 20, (F).
Sept. 29—White-winged Triller, (E). Oct. 21, (E).
Sept. 29—Horsfield Bronze Cuckoo, (E). In nest of Red-capped Robin found Sept. 22.
Oct. 20—Fairy Martin, (E).
Oct. 27—Rainbow-bird, (?U).
Nov. 3—Elegant Parrot, (F).
Nov. 3—Red-tipped Pardalote, (?B).
Nov. 17—Black-faced Wood-swallow, (B).

CARON—1947

July 27—Brown Thornbill (Nest and egg shell).
July 29—Dusky Miner, (E). Oct. 12, (E).
Aug. 24—Weebill, (?B).

Aug. 25—Magpie-lark, (U). Aug. 31, (B). Oct. 12, (F). Oct. 19, (B).
 Aug. 27—Corvus (sp.), (U).
 Aug. 27—Pied Butcher-bird, (E). Sept. 28, (B).
 Aug. 27—Tawny Frogmouth, (E).
 Sept. 5—Tree Martin, (?B).
 Sept. 12—Welcome Swallow, (Y). Nov. 17, (B).
 Sept. 21—Nankeen Kestrel, (E). Sept. 29, (E).
 Sept. 28—Grey Currawong, (?B).
 Sept. 28—Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, (E and Y).
 Sept. 28—Galah, (?B).
 Oct. 12—Red Wattle-bird, (E).
 Oct. 19—Western Magpie, (U).

—ERIC H. SEDGWICK, Williams.

Grey Butcher-bird (*Cracticus torquatus*), an abnormal Clutch.—The breeding population of this species on "Yanjettee" is approximately 12 pairs. During September, 1953, five nests were investigated, three with four eggs each, one with seven eggs, and one in which the birds had not then laid. One nest of four eggs disappeared, another hatched out four young which also disappeared, and the nest of seven eggs, the building of which had been rather protracted, hatched out seven young. This nest which was only eight feet from the ground in an open position was first noticed to have seven eggs on September 18. On October 7, when I visited it, all eggs had hatched and the shell of one egg was still in the nest. There were only six birds left in the nest on October 30 and another one had disappeared by November 1. Possibly the two missing birds had fallen out, as the nest was much over-crowded.

On November 3 two young birds were sitting on a limb within one foot of the nest and the other three were found in the surrounding timber. Four of these birds were ringed. They all had yellow gapes and palate.

The young birds called very often with a low location note which undoubtedly helped their parents to find them and it was also helpful in keeping the young together. It was interesting to watch a young bird which had fallen to the ground clamber up the trees using its wings as supports and then make short flights to higher branches. They stood like statues when approached, as do young Magpies. Both parents fed what appeared to be long worms to the young ones who had some difficulty in swallowing them. The parents assisted the young in their efforts to eat worms but often the worm was dropped, in which case the adult flew down, picked it up, and flew away with it. They did not offer it again to the young one.

On November 6 I only located 3 young and they showed little progress in the three days.

November 20 I again only found 3 young and there appeared to be considerable difference in their progress over the last fourteen days. All tails had grown but that of the little dark-breasted ringed bird least, and it appeared the most backward generally. They were all still awkward in flight and used the location note to keep together and to inform their parents of their whereabouts. They showed no signs of feeding themselves.